

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Rob Dillard
515.725.1700

IPR REPORTERS RECEIVE REGIONAL NEWS AWARDS

May 21, 2014 (Des Moines, IA) —Iowa Public Radio congratulates *All Things Considered* host Pat Blank and reporter Joyce Russell on their recent awards. Blank was the 2014 recipient of the Iowa Broadcast News Association's Jack Shelley Award, and Russell was awarded a regional Edward R. Murrow Award.

Shelley Award Recognizes Lifetime Journalistic Achievement: Pat Blank is the 43rd recipient of the Shelley award, which is given annually to a person with a record of achievement in broadcast journalism in Iowa. She received the award May 3 in Cedar Rapids. The Jack Shelley Award is the highest individual honor given in Iowa Broadcast Journalism. The award is named for Jack Shelley, the legendary broadcast journalist who was a WWII war correspondent for the WHO Stations, WHO's news director and later, Iowa State University Professor of Journalism.

Pat has been with Iowa Public Radio for 24 years. She is a national-award winning reporter who has also worked in commercial radio and television. Pat has served as a part-time instructor at Wartburg College and at the University of Northern Iowa where she teaches journalism classes. She is on the Board of Control for UNI's student run radio station KULT. She is currently serving a second term on the Iowa Archives of Broadcasting National Advisory Board. Pat has a bachelor's degree in radio-television broadcasting from the University of Northern Iowa.

Edward R. Murrow Award Recognizes Outstanding Journalism: Joyce Russell won a large market radio regional Edward R. Murrow Award from the Radio-TV Digital News Association (RTDNA) for her hard news feature "HUD Claims Housing Discrimination in Dubuque." The award was announced on April 22. The story was up against entries from Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska. It is now eligible for the national Murrow Awards, which will be announced in October. Joyce had earlier won a Severeid Award from the Northwest Broadcast News Association for the same story.

Joyce Russell is a correspondent based at the Iowa Statehouse. Joyce has been covering the Iowa Statehouse since shortly after joining the news staff at WOI Radio in 1988. Her earlier broadcasting

experience included news reporting at commercial stations in Oklahoma City and Fort Wayne, Indiana. Joyce's reports can be heard on National Public Radio and American Public Media programs *including All Things Considered, Morning Edition, and Marketplace*. She covered the last six Iowa caucus campaigns and interviewed numerous candidates for president, including some who went on to attain the highest office in the land. Joyce has a bachelor's degree in English from Saint Louis University and a master's degree in English from the University of Oklahoma.

Iowa Public Radio informs, enriches and engages Iowans through radio programming and other media. IPR enhances civic and cultural connections across the state, strengthening Iowa's communities and reflecting Iowa's sense of place. For more information about Iowa Public Radio, contact us at 515-725-1700 or visit iowapublicradio.org.

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